

APPENDIX A - CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Serial No.: 10/625,232

Docket No.: 22413-14

1. (Currently Amended) In the surgical treatment of a human or animal body, a method of controlling excessive bleeding, the method comprising:

providing a device, the device comprising an applicator having at least one face and including an array of needles each needle including a tissue-piercing distal tip, said array of needles arranged on said at least one face of the applicator, said applicator structured to be operably coupled to a source of microwave electromagnetic energy;

positioning said array of needles so that said array of needles surround a volume of tissue to be treated, said array of needles serving to confine and transmit the microwave electromagnetic energy field three-dimensionally;

extending the tissue-piercing distal tips of said array of needles from said at least one face of the applicator into said volume of tissue to be treated at a point on a planned incision line;

applying said microwave electromagnetic energy three-dimensionally ~~confined by~~ among said array of needles into the volume of the tissue to be treated at said point on the planned incision line;

removing the tissue-piercing distal tips of said array of needles from the volume of tissue to be treated;

advancing the applicator along the planned incision line in step-wise manner, extending the tissue-piercing distal tips of said array of needles into a volume of tissue to be treated along said planned incision line, and applying said microwave electromagnetic energy three-dimensionally among ~~confined by~~ said array of needles into the volume of the tissue to be treated along said planned incision line until said microwave energy has been applied along the length of said incision line; and

bloodlessly resecting the tissue from the body.

2. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising applying microwave energy to the volume of the tissue to be treated for a time sufficient to raise the temperature of the tissue or organ by 20 to 30 degrees C.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of surgery on the human or animal body to control excessive bleeding, the method comprising:

- (a) inserting a device into tissue or a part of an organ to be treated, the device comprising an applicator structured to be operably coupled to a source of electromagnetic energy, said applicator including an array of needles thereon, each needle having tissue-piercing means;
- (b) positioning the tissue-piercing means of said array of needles into a desired depth of a volume of the tissue to be treated;
- (c) applying the electromagnetic energy ~~via~~ three-dimensionally among the array of needles into the desired depth of the volume of tissue to be treated to heat the tissue;
- (d) advancing the tissue-piercing means of said array of needles along the length of a planned incision line; and
- (e) making an incision into the desired depth of the volume of tissue which has been heated along said planned incision line; and
- (f) bloodlessly resecting the tissue or part of organ from the body.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, in which the step of applying electromagnetic energy comprises heating said tissue by 20 to 30° C.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said electromagnetic energy is provided at microwave frequency.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said array includes at least one row of said needles.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, further including a plurality of said rows of said needles, each said row having a plurality of said needles.
8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein each said row is straight.
9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said rows are parallel to one another.
10. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said array includes two said rows of needles.
11. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said array of needles is rectangular.
12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said needles are parallel with one another.
13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said needles are the same length as one another.
14. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said needles are straight.
15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein positioning the tissue-piercing means of said array of needles to the desired depth of the volume of the tissue to be treated further includes actuating said applicator to cause said tissue-piercing means of said array of needles to extend into said desired depth of the volume of tissue.
16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein actuating said applicator to cause said tissue-piercing means of said array of needles to extend into said tissue includes extending said needle array in unison.
17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3 further comprising providing said applicator with a handle.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein extending the tissue-piercing means of said array of needles into a desired depth of a volume of the tissue to be treated further includes retracting said needles from said tissue .
19. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said array of needles includes at least one row of said array of needles.
20. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, further including a plurality of said rows of said needles, each said row having a plurality of said needles.
21. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein each said row is straight.
22. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said rows are parallel to one another.
23. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 20, wherein said array includes two said rows of needles.
24. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said array of needles is rectangular.
25. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said needles are parallel with one another.
26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said needles are the same length as one another.
27. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said needles are straight.
28. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein extending the tissue-piercing distal tips of said array of needles into said volume of tissue further includes actuating said applicator to cause said tissue-piercing distal tips of said array of needles to extend into said tissue.

29. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said actuating said applicator to extend said tissue-piercing distal tips of said array of needles into said tissue includes extending said needle array in unison.
30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising providing said applicator with a handle.
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28 wherein extending the tissue-piercing distal tips of said array of needles into said volume of tissue further comprises retracting said needles from said tissue.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said source of microwave energy comprises a waveguide for microwave transmission to said array of needles.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein positioning the tissue-piercing means of said array of needles into a desired depth of a volume of the tissue to be treated further comprises extending the tissue-piercing means into said desired depth of a volume of tissue to be treated.
34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein said array of needles are moveable with respect to said applicator and said extending is accomplished by actuating said needles with an actuator.
35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein said extending the tissue-piercing means of said array of needles into a desired depth of a volume of the tissue to be treated includes retracting said needles from said tissue.
36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35 wherein steps (b), (c), (d), and (e) are repeated until electromagnetic energy has been applied along the length of the planned incision line.